(c) if so, whether Government are considering to take any effective steps to protect animals, to increase the number of tourists and to restore normalcy alongwith to examine the financial position; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU) (a) No, Sir.

(b) No such cases of irregularity in the assistance received from the World Bank under the India Eco Development Project have come to the notice of the Central Government.

(c) Central assistance under the schemes namely 'Project Tiger[1] and 'India Eco Development Project' is provided to the State Government for the proper management of the Ranthambore Tiger Reserve which includes assistance for the activities related to protection of wild animals and development of habitat. Due to prevailing drought conditions in Rajasthan this year, the Central Government has provided an additional central assistance of Rs. 45.00 lakhs for providing fodder and water facilities in the adjoining villages of the Reserve, out of which Rs. 25.00 lakhs has been released as the first instalment.

Studies on rivers under National River Action Plan

380. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how many studies by different institutions have been conducted on Beas, Sutlej and Yamuna rivers and also on rejuvenation of Rivalsar Lake in district Mandi in Himachal Pradesh under the National River Action Plan alongwith field testing laboratory sanitation survey etc., and how many proposals are pending with the Central Government for the allocation of funds for them and since when;

(b) what are the reasons for non-allocation of funds for them so far; and

(c) by when funds would be allocated for them?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Under the National River Conservation Plan, proposals received from Himachal Pradesh are as follows:—

(i) A proposal amounting to Rs. 78.60 lakhs for assessment of pollution load in river Sutlej in Himachal Pradesh received in 1994.

(ii) A proposal amounting to Rs. 78.41 crores for pollution abatement in 11 towns along river Beas received in 2000.

The proposal for river Sutlej could not be undertaken as the water quality of the river stretch in Himachal Pradesh was within the prescribed standards. For river Beas, the Government of Himachal Pradesh was asked to prepare Detailed Project Reports with firm costs and following an integrated approach with 70:30 cost sharing between the Central and the State Government. During the Tenth Plan, Government will take up works in various States depending upon the prioritization and availability of funds. No proposal either for Yamuna river or for revival of Rivalsar lake has been received from the Government of Himachal Pradesh.

Plantation programmes in Orissa

381. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how much funds have been provided to Orissa Government after the Super Cyclone, to take up plantation work on the coastal belt and what amount has- been utilised, till now, by the State Government;

(b) whether 25 MLAs of Orissa have written to take up plantation work by a private agency, with accountability, and the bill may be paid after survival of trees; and

(c) if so, what decision has been taken in this regard by the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SURI T. R. BAALU): (a) A sum of Rs.607.24 lakhs has been provided to Orissa till date which has been fully utilised by the State Government for coastal shelter belt plantation in the State.